



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Request for Regional Input/Comment on Goal 4 Strategic Targets

FROM: Margaret Schneider
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances

Michael H. Shapiro
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Water

William Farland
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Research and Development

TO: Deputy Regional Administrators

We want to extend our thanks to Regional and Headquarters staff and management for their work in developing the draft architecture for Goal 4 of the EPA 2006-2011 Strategic Plan. This draft architecture reflects months of effort by the Goal 4 team, working with our partners and stakeholders, to define the results we want to achieve and to chart our course for achieving those results. The new outcome-oriented strategic targets supporting this architecture are a significant improvement over the current plan, and will strengthen our planning, program execution, and assessment processes.

As you know, the draft architecture for EPA's 2006-2011 Strategic Plan was released for public comment on February 14, 2006. As a follow-up action, we are requesting that Regions work with States to comment on all proposed Goal 4 measures and, for those measures identified in the attachment, to also develop Regional estimates of progress by 2011 in each Region. In developing Regional targets, Regions should use the national targets in the proposed architecture as a point of reference. At the same time, we expect that senior Regional managers will want to look across all five goals and adjust targets to best fit the needs and conditions in each Region. We will then work with you through the end of the strategic plan development process to ensure that the 5-year national targets contained in EPA's 2006-2011 Strategic Plan meet the government-wide criteria of being both ambitious and attainable.

Note that measures related to Great Waterbodies (i.e. the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay and the Gulf of Mexico) and other ecosystems are not included on the list because they involve management of only one or two Regions. These projects, however, remain of critical importance

to the Agency and Great Waterbody Program Offices should work closely with Regions to assure that targets are ambitious yet realistic. In addition, measures related to science and research activities supporting the Goal 4 activities are not covered in the attachment as they do not require regional target setting.

Please respond with your estimates, comments and observations on regional 5-year targets by March 31, 2006, the end of the public comment period on the draft architecture. Responses should be directed to OCFO with copies to Goal 4 Regional staff leads (Royan Teter (R7), 913-551-7609; Tai-Ming Chang (R3), 215-814-2761; and Joel Jones (R9), 415-972-3449).

In closing, we want to thank all of you for your continued support. Together we can ensure the successful and timely completion of our 2006-2011 Strategic Plan and its submittal to the Congress at the end of September.

CC: Goal 4 Managers
Goal 4 Staff

Attachments